BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

MEMBER OF CONGRESS 9TH DISTRICT, MISSOURI

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION, CREDIT, ENERGY AND RESEARCH

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RURAL DEVELOPMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND TRADE RANKING MEMBER

August 26, 2009

Mr. Kevin Keith, P.E. Chief Engineer Missouri Department of Transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Keith:

I would like to offer my support for completion of Missouri Route 364 (Page Avenue Extension) to secure a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant, which would serve as Phase III for Route 364.

Missouri Route 364 will complete a missing link in the region's transportation network, which has been planned and supported by local, regional, and state transportation authorities for 40 years. The completion of this project will:

- Reduce congestion on Interstate 70 and Interstate 64;
- Provide motorists with an alternative route during inspection and maintenance of the other Missouri River bridges;
- Enhance system operations when the deck on the Missouri River bridge on Interstate 70 is replaced (\$70 million, scheduled in 2012) and during the bridge replacement on Interstate 64 (planned):
- Provide a freeway connector from Interstate 270 to Interstate 64;
- Facilitate more efficient freight movement on Interstate 70;
- Provide better access for the region's employment pool to employment opportunities and retraining facilities; and
- · Foster long term economic growth in underutilized properties.

Thank you for your continued ongoing initiatives to provide responsive, innovative and cost effective services to the citizens of Missouri's Ninth Congressional District and the state of Missouri.

Sincerely,

Blaine Luetkemeyer

Member of Congress